

Barbara Jordan Media Awards

Submission Guidelines

Sponsored by the
Texas Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities

Guidelines

- Use positive language and imagery.
- Portray people with disabilities accurately and positively.
- Provide appeal for the general public and not merely a professional or specialized audience.

Calendar for Awards Process

January 15.....Postmark deadline for all entries
February 25.....Completion of the judging process
April/May.....Ceremony for award winners

Entry Rules

- 1) All entries must meet at least two (2) of the following four (4) criteria:
 - a) Produced in Texas.
 - b) Produced by an organization with corporate headquarters in Texas.
 - c) Used Texans with disabilities in the creation or production of the materials.
 - d) Broadcast, published or distributed in Texas.
- 2) All materials must have been released to the public between January 1 and December 31 of the year before the awards ceremony.
- 3) Entries are limited to two per individual.
- 4) Materials entered will become the property of the Governor's Committee and will be used only for purposes related to the Governor's Committee. No materials will be used for commercial purposes.
- 5) The Committee may elect to give other forms of special recognition or to eliminate from consideration selected categories.
- 6) GCPD members, staff, and families are not eligible to receive, and may not submit nominations for, competitively-judged GCPD awards during their tenure on the Committee.

Category Descriptions

Television:

Awards will be given for contributions made through the medium of television in five areas.

NOTE: Please submit a **captioned version** of the piece to use as your entry if available.

- **Public Service Announcement (PSA)** — not to exceed sixty (60) seconds
- **Documentary** — education and public affairs programs and/or series of programs or segments on a related topic
- **Entertainment** — movies, situation comedies, musicals, other entertainment programs
- **News/Feature** — a story that appears as part of a regular newscast
- **Advertising** — a commercial promoting a product, service or program

Radio:

Awards will be given for contributions made through the medium of radio in these three areas:

- **Public Affairs Programming** — public service announcement (PSA), talk show, documentary, or series of programs or segments on related topic
- **News or Feature Story** — a story that appears as part of a regular broadcast
- **Advertising** — a commercial promoting a product, service or program

Photojournalism:

Awards will be given for a photograph or series of photographs used to tell a story or to complement a written story.

Print:

Awards given in this category will include various types of print productions such as newspaper articles, magazine articles, newsletters and periodicals.

- **Editorial or Commentary** — remark, comment, observation, opinion
- **News Story** — a story resulting from reporting on an subject involving a disability issue
- **Feature Article** — a narrative focus on an individual or organization
- **Advertising** — an ad promoting a product, service, or program

Internet:

Awards given in this category will include Print articles, Photography, or Video produced and displayed on a website. Entries that appear both on the Internet and in one of the other categories may be submitted in either category.

Book:

Awards given in this category are for a book (fiction or non-fiction) that is either about a disability, or that features a character with a disability in a respectful and realistic manner.

Special Contributions:

Awards in this category will be given for use of the media to publicize activities, events, or products of an individual, organization, or student who has made outstanding contributions to

a better understanding of persons with disabilities. Examples include promotional videos, film screenings, media contests, etc.

- **Individual** (person)
- **Organization** (group)
- **Student** (high school or college journalism/communications)

Submission Instructions

Television: Submit either an active website link or 6 COPIES of the DVD in a common format.

Photojournalism: Submit a DVD or CD (highest quality JPEG or GIF to represent your work, or pdf). Include website link if available.

Radio: Submit either an active website link or 6 COPIES of the audio CD in a common format.

Print: Submit either an active website link or a pdf (preferred) or Word file submitted by email or on a CD.

Internet: Submit an active website link. If the link is no longer available, provide a DVD or CD in a common format.

Book: Submit 6 COPIES of the book; include a one-page synopsis, and if there are particularly relevant passages or pages that you want to point out for the judges, include page numbers for those and/or an Internet link to a substantial and relevant excerpt. If there is a related website, include the URL.

Special Contributions Categories: Supporting materials are strongly encouraged – electronic, print, or both – to effectively document and portray the entry. A submission must include either an active website link; or a pdf (preferred) or Word file for print documents, submitted by email or on a CD; or 6 COPIES of a DVD in a common format for video pieces; or a combination, depending upon the nature of the submission.

Submission Address

Supporting materials should be clearly labeled and mailed to:

**Barbara Jordan Media Awards
Texas Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities
PO Box 12428
Austin, Texas 78711**

GCPD@governor.state.tx.us
512-463-5740 or 512-463-5739